

are needed, and they are needed now. To better prepare our Nation, the Administration, local and State officials, public health departments, and our front line medical response teams must have additional resources and support. I believe the best way to accomplish this is to provide additional funds toward the priorities outlined in the Public Health Threats and Emergencies Act and to better arm America to fight against bioterrorism.

Senator KENNEDY and I, and our colleagues, look forward to working with the Administration and those who serve on the Appropriations Committees to provide the funds necessary to fill the gaps in our current biodefense and surveillance systems and to take additional steps to prevent the use of bioweapons and fully prepare our communities to respond. So that the Senate is strongly on record in favor of these efforts, I look forward to working with all of my colleagues to have this Sense of the Senate Resolution considered on an appropriate vehicle in the very near future.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, today I join my distinguished colleague, Senator BILL FRIST, and many other colleagues in the Senate to introduce a resolution stating our strong support for strengthening America's defenses against bioterrorism.

As our forces continue their actions over Afghanistan, we can expect that our enemies will try to strike against our country again. We must close the gaps in our ability to deal with the possibility of bioterrorism on American soil. Just as we support our armed forces overseas, we should support our front line defenses against bioterrorism—our public health and medical professionals.

We want to reassure all Americans that much has already been done to assure their safety from such an attack, and to minimize the spread of biological agents if an attack does occur. The kind of heroism we witnessed from average Americans on September 11 with Americans caring for and protecting their fellow citizens would take place once again in responding to a bioterrorist threat.

But every day we delay in expanding our capabilities exposes innocent Americans to needless danger. We cannot afford to wait.

Our first priority must be to prevent an attack from ever occurring. That means moving quickly to enhance our intelligence capacity and our ability to infiltrate terrorist cells, wherever they may exist. It also means using the renewed partnership between the United States and Russia to make sure that dangerous biological agents do not fall into the hands of terrorists. We've worked with Russia to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, and we must work together now to prevent the spread of biological weapons.

We must also enhance America's preparedness for a bioterrorist attack. Our citizens need not live their lives in fear of a biological attack, but building strong defenses is the right thing to do.

Unlike the assaults on New York and Washington, a biological attack would not be accompanied by explosions and police sirens. In the days that followed, victims of the attack would visit their family doctor or the local emergency room, complaining of fevers, aches in the joints or perhaps a sore throat. The actions taken in those first few days will do much to determine how severe the consequences of the attack will be.

The keys to responding effectively to a bioterrorist attack lie in three key concepts: immediate detection, immediate treatment and immediate containment.

To improve detection, we should improve the training of doctors to recognize the symptoms of a bioterrorist attack, so that precious hours will not be lost as doctors try to diagnose their patients. As we've seen in recent days, patients with anthrax and other rarely encountered diseases are often initially diagnosed incorrectly. In addition, public health laboratories need the training, the equipment and the personnel to identify biological weapons as quickly as possible.

In Boston, a recently installed electronic communication system will enable physicians to report unusual symptoms rapidly to local health officials, so that an attack could be identified quickly. Too often, however, as a CDC report has stated: "Global travel and commerce can move microbes around the world at jet speed, yet our public health surveillance systems still rely on a 'Pony Express' system of paper-based reporting and telephone calls."

To improve the treatment of victims of a bioterrorist attack, we must strengthen our hospitals and emergency medical plans. Boston, New York and a few other communities have plans to convert National Guard armories and other public buildings into temporary medical facilities, and other communities need to be well prepared too. Even cities with extensive plans need more resources to ensure that those plans will be effective when they are needed.

To improve containment, we must make certain that federal supplies of vaccines and antibiotics are available quickly to assist local public health officials in preventing the disease from spreading.

Developing new medical resources for the future is also essential. Scientists recently reported that they had determined the complete DNA sequence of the microbe that causes plague. This breakthrough may allow new treatments and vaccines to be developed against this ancient disease scourge. We should use the remarkable skills of

our universities and biotechnology companies to give us new and better treatments in the battle against bioterrorism.

September 11 was a turning point in America's history. Our challenge now is to do everything we can to learn from that tragic day, and prepare effectively for the future.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1861. Mr. BREAUX proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, to improve aviation security, and for other purposes.

SA 1862. Mr. TORRICELLI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1855 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1447) supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1863. Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1864. Mr. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1865. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. INOUE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1866. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1867. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1868. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. ROCKEFELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1869. Mrs. FEINSTEIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1870. Mr. DOMENICI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1871. Mr. JEFFORDS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1872. Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1873. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1874. Mr. SMITH, of New Hampshire (for himself, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BURNS, Mr. THURMOND, and Mr. CRAPO) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1875. Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. DEWINE, and Mrs. BOXER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1876. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. DOMENICI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1877. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. CLELAND) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1878. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. THOMPSON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1879. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. DURBIN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1880. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mrs. MURRAY (for himself, Mr. BYRD, and Mr. SHELBY)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1881. Mr. MCCAIN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1882. Mr. REED submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1883. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1884. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1885. Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1886. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. DORGAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1887. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mrs. HUTCHISON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1888. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mrs. HUTCHISON) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1889. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. INHOFE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1890. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. INHOFE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCAIN to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1891. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. FEINGOLD) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1892. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1893. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. INHOFE) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1894. Mr. HOLLINGS (for Mr. LEAHY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1895. Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1896. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. ALLEN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, supra.

SA 1897. Mr. MCCAIN (for Mr. JEFFORDS) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1858 submitted by Mr. HOLLINGS and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1447) supra.

SA 1898. Mr. ALLEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1532, to provide for the payment of emergency extended unemployment compensation; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

SA 1899. Mr. FEINGOLD proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1510, to deter and punish terrorist acts in the United States and around the world, to enhance law enforcement investigatory tools, and for other purposes.

SA 1900. Mr. FEINGOLD proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1510, supra.

SA 1901. Mr. FEINGOLD proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1510, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1861. Mr. BREAUX proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1447, to improve aviation security, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . LESS-THAN-LETHAL WEAPONRY FOR FLIGHT DECK CREWS.

(a) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE STUDY.—The National Institute of Justice shall assess the range of less-than-lethal weaponry available for use by a flight deck crewmember temporarily to incapacitate an individual who presents a clear and present danger to the safety of the aircraft, its passengers, or individuals on the ground and report its findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Section 44903 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(h) AUTHORITY TO ARM FLIGHT DECK CREW WITH LESS-THAN-LETHAL WEAPONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary, after receiving the recommendations of the National Institute of Justice, determines, with the approval of the Attorney General and the Secretary of State, that it is appropriate and necessary and would effectively serve the public interest in avoiding air piracy, the Secretary may authorize members of the flight deck crew on any aircraft providing air transportation or intrastate air transportation to carry a less-than-lethal weapon while the aircraft is engaged in providing such transportation.

“(2) USAGE.—If the Secretary grants authority under paragraph (1) for flight deck crew members to carry a less-than-lethal weapon while engaged in providing air transportation or intrastate air transportation, the Secretary shall—

“(A) prescribe rules requiring that any such crew member be trained in the proper use of the weapon; and

“(B) prescribe guidelines setting forth the circumstances under which such weapons may be used.”.

SA 1862. Mr. TORRICELLI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1855 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1447) to improve aviation security, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 2, line 20 of the amendment, insert “employment that involves the provision of transportation to or from an airport,” after “an airport,”.

SA 1863. Mr. MURKOWSKI (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, to improve aviation security, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . AGE AND OTHER LIMITATIONS.

(a) GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning on the date that is 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) section 121.383(c) of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, shall not apply;

(2) no certificate holder may use the services of any person as a pilot on an airplane engaged in operations under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, if that person is 63 years of age or older; and

(3) no person may serve as a pilot on an airplane engaged in operations under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, if that person is 63 years of age or older.

(b) CERTIFICATE HOLDER.—For purposes of this section, the term “certificate holder” means a holder of a certificate to operate as an air carrier or commercial operator issued by the Federal Aviation Administration.

(c) RESEERVATION OF SAFETY AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this section is intended to change the authority of the Federal Aviation Administration to take steps to ensure the safety of air transportation operations involving a pilot who has reached the age of 60, including its authority—

(1) to require such a pilot to undergo additional or more stringent medical, cognitive, or proficiency testing in order to retain certification; or

(2) to establish crew pairing standards for crews with such a pilot.

SA 1864. Mr. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1447, to improve aviation security, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following new section:

SEC. . POSSESSION OF HANDGUNS AND OTHER WEAPONS BY COCKPIT CREW OF COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT.

(a) AUTHORITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 449 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end of subchapter I the following new section:

“§ 44917. Aircraft cockpit protection

“(a) FIREARMS.—A pilot, co-pilot, or navigator of a commercial aircraft may carry a handgun aboard the aircraft if the pilot, co-pilot, or navigator, respectively, has passed the background investigation required under subsection (b) and has been trained and certified under subsection (c).

“(b) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—The Secretary of Transportation shall, in consultation with other appropriate Federal agencies, prescribe standards for training and conducting background investigations of pilots, co-pilots, and navigators of aircraft to ensure they are qualified and adequately prepared to use a handgun or other weapon they are authorized to carry aboard a commercial aircraft.

“(c) TRAINING.—

“(1) INITIAL TRAINING.—Before carrying a handgun or other weapon aboard a commercial aircraft, the pilot, co-pilot, or navigator of the aircraft shall complete a weapons training program approved by the Secretary of Transportation and be certified as having successfully completed the program.

“(2) REFRESHER TRAINING.—To ensure continued proficiency in the weapons-related skills on which trained in a program approved under paragraph (1), a pilot, co-pilot, or navigator shall annually complete refresher training in such skills at a training facility designated by the Secretary and be certified as having completed the refresher training.

“(3) PARTICULAR WEAPONS TRAINING.—To be approved under paragraph (1), a program shall include training in the use and maintenance of each particular weapon authorized to be carried aboard an aircraft under this section. The certification of completion of training shall include a statement certifying the completion of training on each such weapon.

“(4) INSTRUCTORS AND FACILITIES.—The Secretary of Transportation shall require that, to the maximum extent practicable, the training under this section be provided by instructors approved by the Secretary in facilities throughout the United States that are